



U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

AGENCY OVERVIEW

Department of Homeland Security

On March 1, 2003, the Legacy Immigration and Naturalization Service ("Legacy INS") ceased to exist, and its functions were transferred from the Department of Justice to the newly created Department of Homeland Security ("DHS"). The reorganization was required by the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Public Law No. 107-296 Section 1502). Legacy INS was split into three agencies and merged with the Legacy U.S. Customs Service: U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services ("USCIS"), Customs and Border Protection ("CBP"), and Immigration and Customs Enforcement ("ICE").

USCIS

On March 1, 2003, USCIS was created as a component of DHS to administer the citizenship and immigration services of the United States. USCIS includes approximately 15,000 employees and contractors, and is headed by the Director of USCIS, who reports directly to the Deputy Secretary for DHS and holds the rank of Under Secretary.

USCIS' mission is to provide accurate and useful information to customers, grant immigration and citizenship benefits, promote awareness and understanding of citizenship, and to ensure the integrity of the U.S. immigration system. USCIS processes all immigrant and non-immigrant benefits provided to visitors of the U.S. including:

- *Family-based petitions* – facilitating the process for close relatives to immigrate, gain permanent residence, work, etc.
Employment-based petitions – facilitating the process for current and prospective employees to immigrate or stay in the U.S. temporarily;
- *Asylum and Refugee processing* – adjudicating asylum and the processing of refugees;
- *Naturalization* – approving citizenship of eligible persons who wish to become U.S. citizens;
Special status programs – adjudicating eligibility for U.S. immigration status as a form humanitarian aid to foreign nationals; and
- *Document issuance and renewal* – including verifying eligibility, producing, and issuing immigration documents.

USCIS Manila

USCIS Manila accepts and adjudicates U.S. immigration benefits filed by residents of: The Philippines, New Guinea, Micronesia, Marshall Islands, Palau, Kiribati, Tuvalu, Fiji, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Samoa, Wallis, Futuna, New Caledonia, Pitcairn Island, and Overseas French territories of French Polynesia (Austral Islands, Bass Islands, Gambier Islands, Marquesas Islands, Society Islands including Tahiti, Tuamotu Archipelago, Bora Bora, Hiva Oa, Huahine, Maiao, Maupiti, Mehetia, Moorea, Nuku, Hiva,

Raiatea, Tahaa, Tetiaroa, Tubuai, Tupai, Rangiroa, etc.).

USCIS Manila either adjudicates, accepts filings, or provides services for the following benefits:

- Form I-130, Petition for Alien Relative. (Filing and Adjudication).
- Form I-290B, Notice of Appeal to the Administrative Appeals Unit/ (Filing and Transfer).
- Form I-360, Application for Amerasian, Widow(er), or Special Immigrant. (Filing and Adjudication).
- Form I-407, Abandonment by Alien of Status as Lawful Permanent Resident. (Filing and Adjudication).
- Form I-600, Petition to Classify Orphan as an Immediate Relative. (Filing and Adjudication).
- Form I-600A, Application for Advance Processing of Orphan Petition. (Filing and Adjudication).
- Form I-601, Application for Waiver of Grounds of Inadmissibility. (Adjudication).
- Form I-212, Application for Permission to Reapply for Admission into the U.S. After Deportation or Removal. (Filing and Adjudication).
- Form I-751, Petition to Remove Conditions on Residence. (Filing and Transfer).
- Form I-730, Refugee/Asylee Relative Petition. (Post-Adjudication Processing).
- Form N-400, Application for Naturalization. (Pre-Filing Processing).
- Form EOIR-29, Notice of Appeal to the Board of Immigration Appeals From A Decision of a USCIS Officer. (Filing and Transfer).
- Request for Humanitarian Reinstatement of I-130 Petition. (Filing and Adjudication).
- Request for Opt-Out under Section 6 of the Child Status Protection Act. (Filing and Adjudication).
- Motion to Re-open USCIS Decision. (Filing, Adjudication, and Transfer).
- Motion to Reconsider USCIS Decision. (Filing, Adjudication, and Transfer).
- Fingerprint Request for USCIS Application / Petition. (Completion).
- HIV Waivers for V and K Nonimmigrants. (Filing and Adjudication).

Website

USCIS maintains a comprehensive website located at www.uscis.gov which will answer many questions concerning how and where to apply for U.S. immigration benefits. We strongly urge you to visit our website before visiting our office in person.

Public Information Window

USCIS Manila maintains a public information window (Window 35) in the Immigrant Visa Section of the U.S. Embassy, Manila. We are open to the public Monday – Friday (except U.S. and Philippine holidays) from 8:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. Arrive early to ensure a place in line. Take a number (one number per family) and have a seat in the waiting room. Inquiries are answered in the order received.

Contact Information

Mailing Address:	U.S. Embassy, 1201 Roxas Blvd, Ermita, Manila, 1000 Philippines
Telephone:	(63-2) 528-6300 Ext. 2224
Facsimile:	(63-2) 522-4362
E-mail:	mphinquiry.cis@dhs.gov
USCIS Manila Website:	http://www.uscis.gov/graphics/fieldoffices/overseasoffices/bangkokdistrict/manila/aboutus.htm